the Government to decongest the traffic, check fatal accidents and make the through traffic pass speedily; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (d) The stretch of NH-1 passing through the town of Panipat is having six-lane wide carriageway and service roads on both sides for smooth flow of traffic. However, because of local traffic, parking and temporary encroachments by shopkeepers on service roads, there is some congestion. Enforcement of proper traffic discipline and other measures are being taken for which the State PWD has been requested to forward proposals for survey and investigation.

Rajghat and Bansagar Project

2911. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VERMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rajghat and the Bansagar project are proposed to be inter-linked;

(b) if so, the Rajghat dam could not be filled up partially due to the linking of projects;

(c) it so, whether the Union Government have any proposal to keep both the projects separated; and

(d) it not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal of inter-linking the Rajghat and the Bansagar Projects.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Rajghat Dam Project and Bansagar Dam Project are two separate Projects located across rivers Betwa & Sone respectively.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Foreign Tourists in Gujarat

2912. SHRI JAYSINH CHAUHAN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign tourists visited India during 1995-96;

(b) the details of foreign exchange earned by the department of tourism during the said period;

(c) the number of tourists out of it visited the worth seeing place of Gujarat;

(d) whether the Union Government have sanctioned some projects for the development of tourism in Gujarat;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the sanctioned projects have been completed; and

(g) if not the reasons therefor and the possibilities thereof in future ?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFARIS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b) Total number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1995-96 were 2190334. The estimated foreign exchange earning by the country from tourism during the same year was Rs. 9185.88 crores.

(c) It is estimated that about 3519 foreign tourists visited the places of tourist interest in Gujarat during 1995-96.

(d) to (g) The Central Department of Tourism sanctioned Rs. 190.58 lakhs for 25 projects in Gujarat during Eighth Plan. Out of these, 14 projects have already been implemented and the rest are being implemented by the State Government. Eight of the projects under implemention were sanctioned only during 1996-97.

Recognised Private Institutes

2913. SHRI LINGARAJ VALYAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of AICTE approved private technical institutes in Maharashtra;

(b) whether the teachers serving in these institutes have job security; and

(c) if not, the action taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of the teachers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has approved 268 private institutions conducting Degree/ Diploma programmes in Engineering and Technology/ Pharmacy in Maharashtra. One of the conditions of the AICTE approval to these institutions is that the teachers are appointed as per the AICTE staff structure, qualifica-